

Applicants: Magno et al.  
Application No.: 10/614,435  
Filed: July 7, 2003  
Page 16

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached sheets 1 to 25 of the drawings contain changes to improve the quality of the lines therein. Please replace sheets 1 to 25 of the drawings, as originally filed, with the attached sheets 1 to 25.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets 1 to 25 of the drawings

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the above-identified application including claims 1 to 26 (claims 1, 3, 8, 15 amended herein), in view of the following remarks, is requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Claims 15 and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 3 to 6, 8 to 14, and 17 to 21 have been objected to. Claims 22 to 26 have been allowed.

**Claim 1**

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) based on U.S. Patent No. 4,548,242 (Paradis).

Claim 1, as amended herein, defines a trigger mechanism which includes a trigger linkage having an elongate trigger member which has opposite ends one of which is pivotally connected to the grip generally adjacent to a distal end thereof. The trigger mechanism includes an intermediate linkage connected at one end to the trigger member. The connection of the intermediate linkage to the trigger member is between the opposite ends thereof.

The connection of the intermediate linkage to the trigger member between the opposite ends thereof provides for the connection of the intermediate linkage to the trigger member to be closer to the connection of the trigger member to the grip. Consequently, the end of the trigger member which is opposite from the connection of the trigger member to the grip is not required to be connected to the intermediate linkage.

This provides ergonomic advantages by allowing for an increased angular displacement of the trigger member between the open and closed positions as compared to the actuator lever 15 of Paradis. This can result in a more ergonomically desirable resistance experienced by the hand of the user when pivoting the trigger member from the open to closed positions to tension a cable tie which is coupled to the tensioning mechanism of claim 1.

No new matter is added by the amendment of claim 1 which is directed to the connection of the intermediate linkage to the trigger member between the opposite ends thereof because this connection is shown in Figs. 1, 2, 5 and 6 (trigger member 58, intermediate linkage 72) of the above-identified application, as originally filed.

Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should be withdrawn, and such action is requested.

Claims 2, 7

Claims 2 and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) based on Paradis.

Claims 2 and 7 each depend from claim 1 and thereby contain all of the limitations thereof. Accordingly, these rejections of claims 2 and 7 should be withdrawn for the same reasons as for claim 1, and such action is requested.

Claims 15, 16

Claims 15 and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite based on the phrase “said outer trigger member” in claim 15. Claim 15, as amended herein, depends from claim 8. Claim 8 defines “an elongate outer trigger member” which provides an antecedent basis for “said outer trigger member” of claim 15. Accordingly, this rejection of claim 15 should be withdrawn, and such action is requested.

Claim 16 depends from claim 15 and thereby contains all of the limitations thereof. Accordingly, this rejection of claim 16 should be withdrawn for the same reasons as for claim 15, and such action is requested.

Claim 15, as amended herein, and claim 16 each depend directly or indirectly from claim 8. Claim 8 has been indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 8, as amended herein, is in independent form. Accordingly, claim 15, as amended herein, and claim 16 are allowable.

Claims 3 to 6, 8 to 14, 17 to 21

Claims 3 to 6, 8 to 14, and 17 to 21 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim (claim 1), and indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 3, as amended herein, includes all of the limitations of claim 1, as originally filed. Accordingly, this objection of claim 3 should be withdrawn, and such action is requested.

Claims 4 to 6 each depend directly or indirectly from claim 3. Accordingly, the objections of claims 4 to 6 should be withdrawn for the same reasons as for claim 3, and such action is requested.

Claim 8, as amended herein, includes all of the limitations of claim 1, as originally filed. Accordingly, the objection of claim 8 should be withdrawn, and such action is requested.

Claims 9 to 15, and 17 to 21 each depend directly or indirectly from claim 8. Accordingly, the objections of claims 9 to 15, and 17 to 21 should be withdrawn for the same reasons as for claim 8, and such action is requested.

#### Drawings

The drawings have been objected to based on the "Character of Lines, Numbers, & Letters" (Office Action, attached "Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review"). The attached Replacement Sheets 1 to 25 of the drawings contain changes to improve the quality of the lines therein. Accordingly, this objection of the drawings should be withdrawn, and such action is requested.

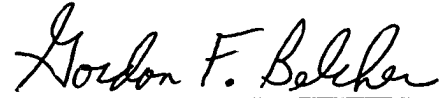
The foregoing is submitted as being fully responsive to the Office Action including the rejections and objections contained therein. Accordingly, the above-identified application is submitted as being allowable and allowance thereof is requested.

Applicants: Magno et al.  
Application No.: 10/614,435  
Filed: July 7, 2003  
Page 21

No fee, other than the fee for the attached Petition for Extension of Time, is believed to be required for entry of the present Amendment in the record of the above-identified application and consideration thereof. However, if any additional fee is required, the USPTO is authorized and requested to charge any and all such fees to the Deposit Account No. 08-2461.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding the above-identified application, Applicants' Attorney Gordon F. Belcher is requested to be contacted at the below-identified telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gordon F. Belcher". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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